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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/676,380	09/29/2000	Andre T. Baron	99-057	1919

7590 03/11/2004

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EXAMINER	
ANDRES, JANET L	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1646	

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	**Application No.**	**Applicant(s)**	
	09/676,380	BARON ET AL.	
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Janet L. Andres	1646	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 28 January 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) ☒ The period for reply expires *6* months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
   (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
   (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
   (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
   (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.
   NOTE: _____.
3. ☒ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): See Continuation Sheet.
4. ☒ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) *18-23* would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a)☐ affidavit, b)☐ exhibit, or c)☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: *See Continuation Sheet*.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)☐ will not be entered or b)☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

   The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

   Claim(s) allowed: *1-8*.

   Claim(s) objected to: *18-23*.

   Claim(s) rejected: *9-17*.

   Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.
8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a)☐ approved or b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. ☐ Other: _____

JANET ANDRES
PATENT EXAMINER

Continuation of 3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): Applicant's amendment is sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 9-23 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant argues with respect to the rejection of claims 9-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) that the prior comments show that the references cited by the Examiner do not teach or render obvious the present invention, and that the Baron paper was cited to enable the Examiner to appreciate the differences more correctly. For the reasons set forth in the office action of 29 July 2003 and 14 May 2003, Applicant's arguments are not found to be persuasive. The antibodies used were known in the art and the development of antibody assays is routine. Baron does not provide evidence that the method developed by Applicant is superior because the comparison is not to that which the Examiner has cited as the prior art, and because, according to Applicant's arguments, the assay of Baron is not the claimed assay .